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TI Complementation of class II A alleles in the immune response to (Glu-Lys-Tyr) polymers
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CS Sch. Med., Yokohama City Univ., Yokohama, 232, Japan
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AB The proliferative T-cell response to the random **terpolymers** poly(Glu Lys Tyr) (=GLT) and poly(Glu Lys Phe) (=GLPhe) is restricted by the E.alpha.E.beta. (=E) class II MHC mol. in most responder mouse strains. Accordingly, some nonresponder strains that carry responder E.beta. alleles (such as H-2b and H-2s) but cannot express cell surface E mols. because of a mutation in the E.alpha. locus can complement with other nonresponder strains (such as H-2k) that provide the missing E.alpha. chain needed for the expression of E mols. and for responsiveness to GLT and GLPhe. The authors describe another type of complementation, where the crossing of two E-nonexpressor haplotypes, H-2fand H-2s, results in E-nonexpressor F1 hybrids, which are, nevertheless, responder to GLT. The restriction element involved in this response is an Af/Ashybrid mol. Thus, A mols., in certain H-2 haplotypes, can also provide the MHC context for the recognition of GLT by T cells. The data support the hypothesis that conformational determinants resulting from the free assocn. of .alpha. and .beta. chains in heterozygotes can increase the immune potential of the individual.